Atrocities against Dalits

2402. DR. JANARDHAN WAGHMARE: Will the Minister of SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government is fully aware that the incidents of Dalit atrocities are on the increase in different forms such as burning the houses of the Dalit families, stripping their women, gang rapes and murders;

(b) the number of such incidents that have taken place in different States in the last five years;

(c) whether State Governments have dealt with them sternly; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT (SHRI D. NAPOLEON) : (a) and (b) The number of cases in regard to various offences of atrocities against Scheduled Castes, registered under the Scheduled Castes and the Scheduled Tribes (prevention of Atrocities) Act, 1989, during last five years, were as under:-

Year	Number of cases
2004	26523
2005	25836
2006	26665
2007	29825
2008	24971
TOTAL:	1,33,820

Source:- National Crime Records Bureau (NCRB)

Data for 2008 is provisional

(c) and (d) Implementation of the said Act is the responsibility of State Governments. They are addressed from time to time at the highest level, to implement it, in letter and spirit. Its implementation is also reviewed in high level meetings with them.

With a view to ensure effective implementation of the Act, central assistance is also provided to State Governments/Union Territory Administrations, mainly for strengthening their enforcement and judicial machinery, relief to atrocity victims, incentive for inter-caste marriages and awareness generation.

Nomadic Tribes

2403. SARDAR TARLOCHAN SINGH: Will the Minister of SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT be pleased to state: